

LOCAL RETURNS OF REMOTELY PURCHASED MERCHANDISE  
WITH RETURN CODE VALIDATION

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method of using a public communications network,  
such as the Internet, to manage returns of items  
purchased by a consumer from a remote direct  
5 merchandiser. The customer is permitted to return an  
item to a local returns site or by having a local shipper  
pick up the item. Either of these local entities is in  
communications with a returns manager, who provides  
return information, credits the consumer's account, and  
10 handles subsequent disposition of the item.

067439.0119